

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 SPC-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01

CU-04 /095 W

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R 071748Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7741

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

USMISSION USEC BRUSSELS

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 133

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PGOV SP

SUBJECT: INITIAL STATEMENTS OF NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

REF: MADRID 85

1. SUMMARY. FOLLOWING SWEARING-IN JANUARY 4, PRESIDENT ARIAS AND MEMBERS OF NEW CABINET PARTICIPATED IN JOINT OFFICE-TAKING CEREMONY TOGETHER WITH OUTGOING ACTING PRESIDENT AND MINISTERS. THIS OCCASION SEEMED DESIGNED TO UNDERScore SOLIDARITY OF SPANIARDS DESPITE GOVERNMENT CHANGES FOLLOWING CARRERO BLANCO'S ASSASSINATION. IN HIS FIRST BRIEF PROGRAMMATIC STATEMENT ARIAS COMMITTED HIS GOVERNMENT TO MAINTAIN PUBLIC ORDER, TO BROADEN DISTRIBUTION OF BENEFITS OF SPAIN'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TO STRENGTHEN INSTITUTIONS, GIVING IMPORTANCE TO INCREASED POLITICAL PARTICIPATION, TO PROVIDE FOR WIDER ROLE FOR YOUTH AND, IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, TO HAVE SPAIN DO ITS PART IN PROMOTING WORLD ORDER. IN FIRST STATEMENTS SINCE ASSASSINATION, MILITARY LEADERS REITERATED, AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, DETERMINATION TO GUARANTEE

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STRICT OBSERVANCE OF FUNDAMENTAL LAWS.

2. FOLLOWING JAN 4 SWEARING IN CEREMONY, (REFTEL) NEW CABINET LED BY PRESIDENT ARIAS, MET WITH OUTGOING MINISTERS HEADED BY ACTING PRESIDENT FERNANDEZ MIRANDA IN CEREMONY OF TAKING OFFICE. OCCASION APPARENTLY DESIGNED TO PORTRAY NATIONAL SOLIDARITY IN WAKE OF GOVERNMENTAL CHANGES FOLLOWING CARRERO BLANCO'S ASSASSINATION ON DECEMBER 20. IT WAS FIRST TIME DURING FRANCE REGIME IN WHICH AN ENTIRE CABINET JOINTLY TOOK OFFICE.

3. IN REMARKS AT CEREMONY, OUTGOING ACTING PRESIDENT FERNANDEZ MIRANDA STRESSED HIS LOYALTY TO FRANCO, TO PRINCE, TO EXAMPLE OF CARRERO, AND TO SPANISH PEOPLE AND, IN NAME OF ALL OUTGOING MINISTERS, EXPRESSED WISHES FOR SUCCESS TO MEMBERS OF NEW GOVERNMENT. HIS DELIVERY WAS UNINSPIRING AND LEFT IMPRESSION OF GARRULOUSNESS. SPEAKING EXTEMPORANEOUSLY, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT GARCIA HERNANDEZ LAUDED EXAMPLE OF CARRERO, EXPRESSED RESOLUTION OF MINISTERS TO STRENGTHEN NATION'S INSTITUTIONS FOR BENEFIT OF NATIONAL COMMUNITY, EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR CONTRIBUTION OF OUTGOING MINISTERS AND THANKED NEW PRESIDENT FOR CONFIDENCE PLACED IN NEWLY APPOINTED MINISTERS. HIS PRESENTATION CONFIRMED HIS REPUTATION AS PARLIAMENTARY ORATOR.

4. ARIAS, THE LAST SPEAKER IN CEREMONY, MADE FIVE-MINUTE SPEECH WHICH APPARENTLY WAS INTENDED AS INTERIM SUBSTITUTE FOR PROGRAM STATEMENT OF NEW GOVERNMENT. HE OUTLINED SIX BASIC OBJECTIVES OF HIS ADMINISTRATION:

(1) TO DEFEND COMMON WELFARE AND MAINTAIN ORDER  
"WITH ALL THE MEANS AT ITS DISPOSAL WITH RIGOUR AND CALMNESS:"

(2) TO DEVELOP AND GUARANTEE TO SPANIARDS, "ESPECIALLY WORKING CLASSES," THE MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF A BETTER STANDARD OF LIVING;

(3) TO STRENGTHEN POLITICAL STRUCTURES AS ANNOUNCED BY HEAD OF STATE (SEE MADRID 12), GIVING "HIGH IMPORTANCE" TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF POLITICAL PARTICIPATION WHICH HAD TO  
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TAKE INTO ACCOUNT PEOPLE'S PROVEN CIVIC MATURITY AND PRESENT NEEDS;

(4) TO INCORPORATE YOUTH IN SOCIAL LIFE, BEARING IN MIND THAT SPAIN'S FUTURE HINGES ON PRINCE JUAN CARLOS AND YOUTH;

(5) TO MAKE CONTRIBUTION TO WORLD PEACE AND TO CONTINUE TRADITIONAL TIES OF FRIENDSHIP WITH OTHER COUNTRIES;

(6) TO PROMOTE SPAIN'S DESTINY, THROUGH SOLIDARITY WITH NEIGHBORING AND TRANS-ATLANTIC CULTURES.

5. IN HIS REMARKS ARIAS ALSO REFERRED TO IMPORTANT ROLE OF MEDIA IN INTERPRETING AND FORMING PUBLIC OPINION.

6. AT ANNUAL RECEPTION WITH MINISTERS AND CHIEFS OF STAFF OF ARMED SERVICES JANUARY 5, FRANCO SAID COLD WAR HAS BEEN SUPPLANTED BY TERRORIST WAR. IT BEHOVED MILITARY, THEREFORE, TO BE AS PREPARED TO COMBAT TERRORISM AS TO PREPARE FOR A WAR. MINISTER OF ARMY, LT. GENERAL CALOMA GALLEGOS, IN SEPARATE ANNUAL CEREMONY OF ARMED FORCES SAME DAY, REITERATED AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, ARMY'S DISCIPLINE AND DEDICATION TO NATION AND READINESS TO INSURE THAT FUNDAMENTAL LAWS WERE RESPECTED.

7. COMMENT: ARIAS' INITIAL PUBLIC REMARKS AS NEW PRESIDENT SEEMED DESIGNED TO ACCENTUATE COHESION WITHIN NEW GOVERNMENT AND CONTINUITY OF SYSTEM. HIS PROGRAMMATIC STATEMENTS INDICATED NO DEPARTURES FROM EXISTING POLICIES. PARTICULARLY NOTEWORTHY, HOWEVER, WERE HIS REFERENCES TO IMPORTANCE OF ROLE OF MEDIA, AND TO IMPORTANCE ATTACHED BY NEW ADMINISTRATION TO "POLITICAL PARTICIPATION." THOUGH THIS STATEMENT WAS HEDGED, IT MAY INDICATE THAT PROPOSAL FOR "POLITICAL ASSOCIATIONS" WHICH APPARENTLY WAS REACHING THE STAGE OF IMPLEMENTATION PRIOR TO CARRERO'S DEATH, IS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION IN SOME FORM  
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